**Romeo & Juliet Web quest English9**

by "Alyssa Monick" 3/22/2011

**About Shakespeare**  
Click on [this link](http://shakespeare.palomar.edu/timeline/timeline.htm) and answer the following questions (1-7).

1. Click on the link to Birth 1564 & Early Years. William Shakespeare was born in what year?

* William Shakespeare was born in the year 1564.

1. What date do we recognize as his birthday?

* We recognize April 23 as Williams birthday.

1. What was important about Stratford-upon-Avon in the 16th century?

* In the 16th century Stratford-upon-Avon was an important agricultural center and market town, its market being licensed in the twelfth century by Richard I.

1. Click on the link for 1594 and find the acting companies Shakespeare was associated with in the early days. Name one.

* Although Shakespeare was involved in many acting companies here is only one of them The Queen’s Men.

1. Click on 1599 The Great Globe. What is the probable year that Romeo and Juliet was written?

* The probable year that Romeo and Juliet was written in was 1595.

1. Scroll down to the section "Construction of the Globe," and answer these questions:
   1. Where did the timbers to build the Globe come from?

* The timbers to build the globe came from the theatre.
  1. Who was the carpenter who built the Globe?
* The carpenter who built the globe was Peter Smith.
  1. What was Shakespeare's share as "householder?"
* Shakespeare's share, as a "householder" was one-fifth of fifty percent of the profits, or 10% of the total profits.

1. What day and year did Shakespeare die? Why is this an *interesting* date? How old was Shakespeare when he died?

* Shakespeare Died April 23 1616, this was an interesting date due to the fact we recognize his birthday as April 23. He was 52 years old when he died.

**About Marriage**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/9.html) and answer the next questions (8-10).

1. Romeo & Juliet marry secretly, but because she is trying to escape the arranged marriage to Paris. Read this site about marriage in Elizabethan England and answer these questions.
   1. What does betrothal mean?

* Betrothal means that both parties of a soon to be wedding have a premarital contract made that is sealed with a kiss.
  1. Name three marriage and betrothal customs found on this page.
* One marriage custom is the wedding garland should be rosemary and roses.
* A second marriage custom is that the bride carries her garland till after the ceremony, then wears it on her head.
* A last custom is that the brides father pays for the wedding and the bride takes her newly found husband’s name.

1. Click on the link for "more wedding customs."
   1. What color should the bride's dress be?

* The dress can be any color it didn’t become entrenched that brides are suppose to wear white till the 19 century.
  1. How the intention to marry is announced? What happens if it is not announced previous to the event?
* The intention to marry is announced three times on three consecutive Sundays, if this does not happen previous to the event the marriage is considered clandestine and illegal.
  1. Describe the wedding procession.
* The wedding procession is the brides maids helping the bride prepare and then her and her family including the groom at times ride from their house to the church, if the groom was not part of the procession he was waiting at the church, the procession is a noisy, joyous time filled with laughter, jokes, and musicians.
  1. What is a dowry?
* A dowry is an amount of money, goods, and property the bride brings to the marriage. It can also be called her marriage portion.

1. Explain how important is a wedding ring to the Elizabethans?

* A wedding ring is unimportant although it symbolizes the sanctity and bond of marriage many people didn’t wear them some could not afford them and others rings were passed down from generations, men did not wear rings at all.

**About Food**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/46.html) and continue (11-13).

1. How many meals do people generally eat each day?

* People generally eat two meals a day.

1. Click [here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/38.html). Why would people in Shakespeare's day not know what a chocolate chip cookie is?

* People in Shakespeare’s day wouldn’t know what a chocolate chip cookie is due to the fact that chocolate had not come in yet during that time, it was solely used in medical purposes, and milk and sugar had not been added to it yet so it was bitter tasting.

1. Lord Capulet throws a huge party, feast and all. Imagine you are in charge of that menu. Luckily for you, today you only have to plan a menu for a small dinner party. Be sure to use only [food available in Europe](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/47.html) during this time. Choose at least two vegetables, two meats, and two fruits or nuts.

* For my dinner party the two vegetables will be eggplant and carrots. The two meats will be beef and chicken. Lastly, my two fruits or nuts will be grapes and strawberries. That is the menu for my dinner party.

PART 2  
**About Language**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/20.html) and continue (14-16).

1. A famous line from Romeo and Juliet is when Juliet says, "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" What does "wherefore" mean?

* Wwherefore means why.

1. What does "stay" mean?

* Stay means to wait.

1. [Click here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/29.html) to get the information you need to translate this conversation. Put your translation in column two. Keep the phrases just about the same, but use Elizabethan words where you can. So, in other words, you rewrite the entire phrase but replace as many words as you can using Elizabethan English.

|| **Person A** || Hello. (A sneezes) Excuse me. || || Translation: Good Day.(A sneezes) Forgive me.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Person B** | Gesundheit! Translation: God Save You. |  |
| **A** | Thank you. Translation: My thanks |  |
| **B** | Say, do you know where the closest bathroom is?  Translation: Say, do you know where the closest Privy is? |  |
| **A** | Certainly. It's down the street in the Kings Tavern.  Translation: Certes. It’s down the street in The Kings Tavern. |  |
| **B** | Thanks. Goodbye. Translation: I thank thee. Goodbye. |  |

**About Theatre in Shakespeare's Time**  
"[Actors, Acting, & Audience](http://www.uni-koeln.de/phil-fak/englisch/shakespeare/)" is the link for the next questions (16-19).

1. How many women actors did the company usually feature?

* The company usually featured no women actors.

1. Was Shakespeare an actor? What was the term used to refer to actors?

* Shakespeare was an actor. The term they used to refer to actors was “players.”

1. How were the seating arrangements for the audience? How did one get a good seat?

* The seating arrangements for the audience were different from today the audience was seated three sides around the main stage and were packed tight. One got good seats by being the first to come.

1. What would the audience do if they did not like a performance?

* If the audience didn’t like the performance they would pelt the actors with oranges or anything handy and they would hiss and shout.

**Shakespearean Insults**

1. Go to the [Shakespearean Insult Kit](http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/dryfoo/Funny-pages/shakespeare-insult-kit.html) and create your own insult. How you do it is to start with the word "Thou." Next, take a phrase/word from the first column to begin your insult, continue by adding something from the second column, and finish it up royally with something from the third column. Type your own personal Shakespearean insult in the table below. [Thou + choice from column 1 + choice from column 2 + choice from column 3 = your custom made insult].

* Thou impertinent earth-vexing scut.